

## City of Killeen

WHEREAS Hispanic Americans can trace their roots back centuries to indigenous peoples and settlers of the New World who were on this continent long before the founding of our nation; and

WHEREAS Millions of Hispanic people have come to the United States from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and other Caribbean regions, Central and South America and Spain creating and enriching our American culture; and

WHEREAS Honoring Hispanic heritage nationally began in 1968 when President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaimed Hispanic Heritage Week; Twenty years later, President Ronald Reagan expanded the honor proclaiming the first Hispanic Heritage Month in 1988; and

WHEREAS Today, we celebrate the gifts of Hispanic culture which offers a rich heritage, a deep commitment to family and community, a strong work ethic, an entrepreneurial spirit and an unwavering belief in the American Dream; and

WHEREAS 2021 honors the theme, "Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope," inviting us to celebrate Hispanic Heritage and to reflect on how great our tomorrow can be if we hold onto our resilience and hope; and

WHEREAS Hispanic Heritage Month is a call to action to reaffirm our respect, appreciation and support for Hispanic Americans and to ensure that they, like all Americans, are afforded the same rights, privileges and advantages to pursue their dreams; and

**WHEREAS** Killeen is a dynamic, diverse and determined city because of the strong influences of many cultures including the Hispanic culture that we pay special tribute to this month.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jose L. Segarra, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Killeen do hereby proclaim September 15 through October 15, 2021 a month of celebration for:

Hispanic Heritage Month

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Killeen to be affixed this 7th day of September, 2021.

Jose L. Segarra, MAYOR